



# SAFETY REMINDER ON DISMANTLING OF DAMAGED BAMBOO SCAFFOLDS

On 23 July 2025, according to media reports, there was a construction site on Anderson Road using a crane to lift a "Lifting Skip" to carry workers to the top of the building to dismantle some damaged portions of bamboo scaffolds. The Construction Industry Council (CIC) would like to deliver this safety message for your attention. It would be appreciated if you could distribute the message below to your fellow members, relevant personnel or other industry stakeholders where appropriate. Thank you very much.

## Common Accidents

1. Failure to provide relevant workers an effective fall arresting system (e.g. secure anchorage point and independent lifeline).
2. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is not properly used and safety harness is not connected to an anchorage point.
3. Failure to supervise the dismantling works for bamboo scaffolds by a competent person.
4. Failure to use working platforms that meet the safety standards.
5. Workers did not wear a suitable safety helmet.
6. Failure to conduct dynamic risk assessments and take appropriate safety measures in response to changes in the environment and procedures.



Life First - Walk the Talk "Work-above-ground and Scaffolding Safety" was held on 25 June 2025. Please click the above image to watch replay of the Webinar at CIC website (Chinese Version only)

## Critical Control Measures

1. Construction team should work out the emergency response plan for each of the possible emergencies (e.g. collapse or leaning of bamboo scaffolds), and maintain a high level of emergency preparedness.
2. If the emergency response plan states that dismantling of bamboo scaffolds is necessary under specified circumstances, safe working procedures should be formulated for the relevant works.
3. A competent person should focus on monitoring the safe condition of the bamboo scaffold and the safety of trained workmen, and should not engage in the scaffolding dismantling work at the same time.
4. Suitable working platforms should be provided and used for working at height.
5. The working platform must be well constructed and of adequate strength, and shall be inspected by a competent person before use to ensure that it is in safe working order.
6. Where the provision of suitable working platforms is not reasonably practicable, it is a must to provide every worker with a suitable full-body safety harness and an anchorage system (e.g. an independent lifeline or a fall arresting system) for continuous attachment of the safety harness.
7. Provide workers involved with a suitable safety helmet equipped with a chin strap and ensuring that they properly wear it on construction site.
8. If dismantling has reached the stage at which a critical member has to be removed, for example, a tie or a brace, the stability of the structure should be assured by fixing a similar or otherwise adequate member in place lower down before the member to be taken out is removed.
9. Fence off the lifting zone and fatal zone properly with barricades and prominent notices to ensure no unauthorised entry into the zones.
10. Ensure lifting appliances and lifting gears are tested and examined by a competent examiner and inspected by a competent person before putting into use for the first time and regularly ensure that they are in safe working order.
11. Conduct regular drills for emergencies to maintain readiness of all personnel.
12. The work team should have developed an effective monitoring and supervision system to ensure compliance with the above measures.



CONSTRUCTION  
INDUSTRY COUNCIL  
建造業議會

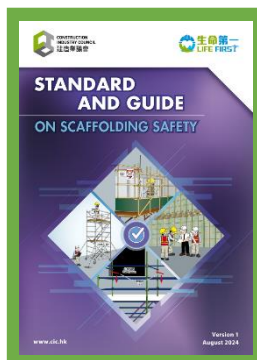


## SAFETY ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF KEY STAKEHOLDERS IN THE HONG KONG CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

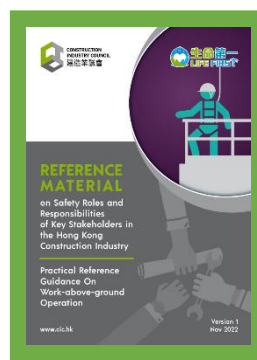
**What if all stakeholders can act together and take one step further to fulfill their roles and responsibilities, can similar accidents be avoided?**

- In the design stage, designers and engineers should take into accounts the work environment prior to the commencement of works; and select suitable construction methods, working platforms and anchorage system.
- During the construction stage, the work team should clearly assign individual responsibilities for emergency personnel, and ensure that the facilities and equipment to meet the needs of emergencies be readily available for use at all times.
- The work team could constantly identify the changes in the process or the environment through dynamic risk assessment and apply control measures to eliminate the hazard.
- Workers should follow the developed safe working procedures, if any risks of falling from height is identified, report it to their supervisors immediately.

### Reference Information



Standard and Guide on  
Scaffolding Safety



Reference Material on Safety  
Roles and Responsibilities of  
Key Stakeholders in the Hong  
Kong Construction Industry  
(Practical Reference Guidance  
On Work-above-ground  
Operation)



Work at Height Safety  
Handbook



Poster - Working at Height  
Safety



**Please Click the Images**



### Disclaimer

This message is not intended to constitute any professional advice on these or any other subjects. The CIC (including its members and employees) will not accept responsibility for any consequences resulting from the use of or failure to use this message. For enquiries, please contact 2100 9000.